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REMARKS

1. Claims 16-19 were objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Claims 16-19 are amended herein as suggested by the Examiner (i.e., by changing "14" into --15--) thereby placing the claims in proper dependent form.

2. Claims 1-8, 10, 11, 23 and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Tang et al. (US 6839348, "Tang"). Claims 1-8, 10, 11, 23 and 24 are canceled.

3. Claim 12 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tang in view of Wu et al. (US 6847638, "Wu"). Claim 12 is canceled.

4. Claims 15-22 are indicated to be allowed.

5. Claims 9, 13 and 14 were objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim but were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 9 and 13 have been rewritten in independent form as suggested and are now in condition for allowance. Claim 14 is in condition for allowance without amendment inasmuch as it is now dependent on an allowable base claim.

6. In view of the above amendments and remarks, a notice of allowance of claims 9 and 13-22 is respectfully requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Lucent Technologies Deposit Account No. 12-2325.

Respectfully submitted,

ALU 134131

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